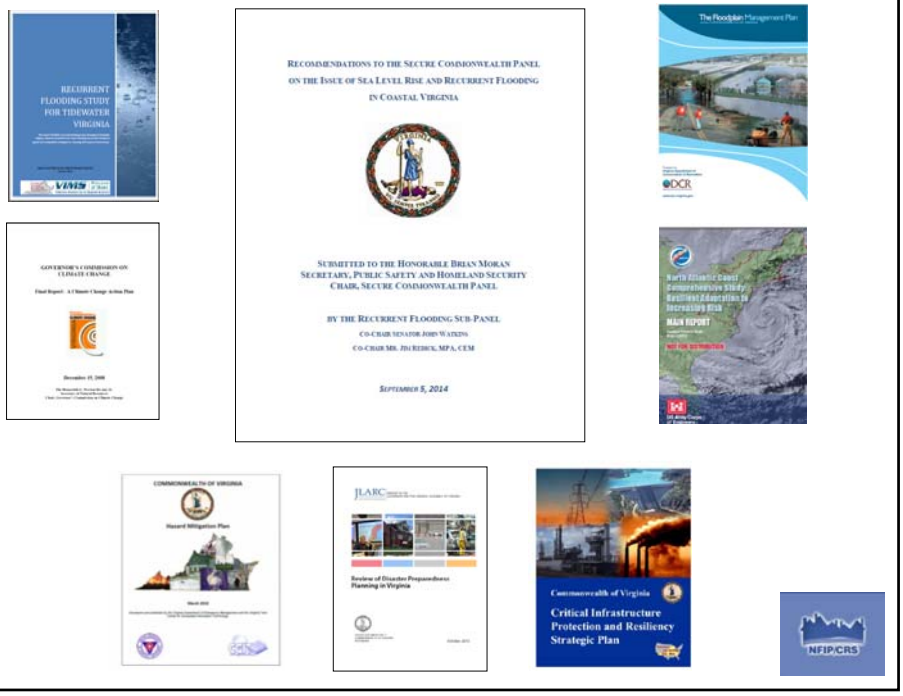
Housing Commission

SCP Recurrent Flooding Sub-Panel

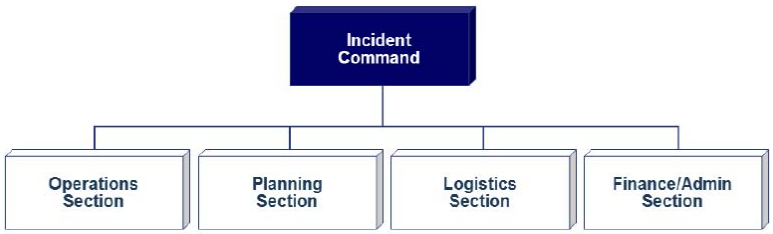
Co-Chair Jim Redick

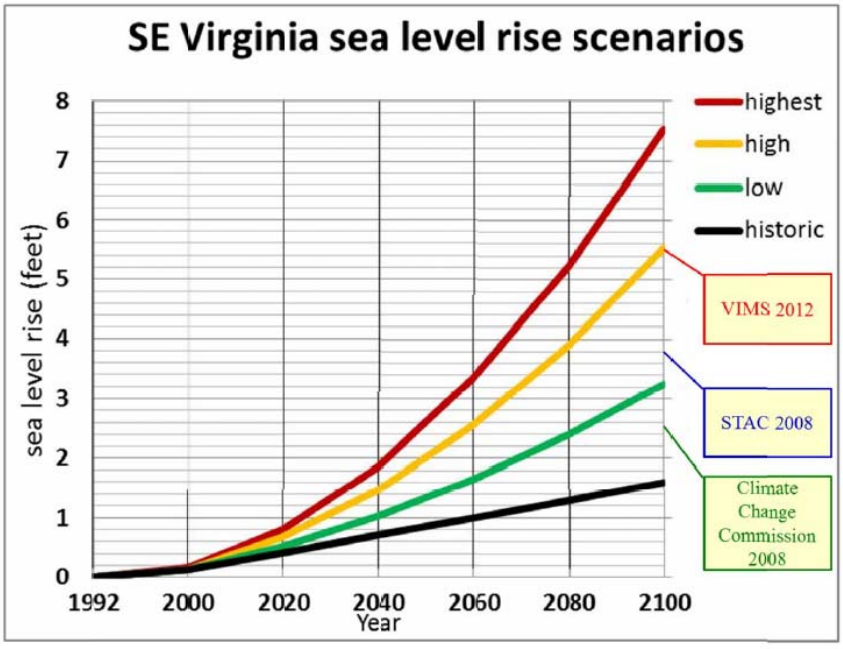
September 17, 2014



Incident Command System Approach

– Establishing a "Resilience Coordinator“
– Establishing a 4-Year Action Plan Cycle





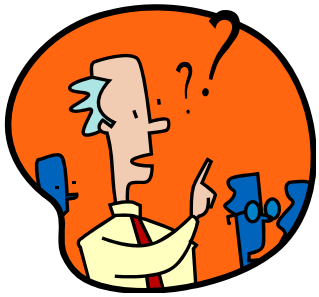
Source: Dr. Carl Hershner, Virginia Institute of Marine Science, 2012

WARNING: Accepting 1.5' for planning is simply the first step to move toward action. It should be noted, however, the concept of planning for a certain SLR trajectory/level gives the false impression that there is a rational basis for deciding on what is a safe level. The next step is to take a scenario-based and probabilistic approach and using the full spectrum of what might happen in terms of SLR to assess the risk in any given location is a more rational approach to decision-making. It is more complex – much like the issue being addressed - but it can be done.

CAUTION: This 1.5' of Sea Level Rise is <u>inundation only</u>; it is important to remember the increased inundation caused by Sea Level Rise is not the only concern. Along with increased depth, duration and frequency of flooding, the threat includes total anticipated water level from storm surge, tidal activity, waves, freshwater input / precipitation and shoreline erosion. *Note: VIMS applied a 3' storm surge in their Recurrent Flood report (VIMS, p. 8).* Put differently, if using the 1933 Ash Wednesday Storm as the flooding storm of record, add 1 meter (3') to see how much more destructive the storm would have been today, and then in the near future. Additionally, planning and mitigation should be done with the *expectation* water will continue to rise in the future.

CAUTION: Lifespan of a project must be considered! Planning, for example, for a new power plant, a new land fill, other critical infrastructure, new residential areas with lifelines of more than a century, a very different approach is needed than accepting just 1.5' of SLR.

Questions?



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